

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re application of:** Kardeis and Wendtner

**Application No. To be assigned**

**Filed:** Herewith

**Confirmation No. To be assigned**

**For:** FAST-FIT COUPLING FOR  
CONNECTING APPLIANCES FORMING  
PART OF A MEDICAL OR SURGICAL  
HANDPIECE SYSTEM TO A SUPPLY  
HOSE

**Examiner:** To be assigned

**Art Unit:** To be assigned

**Attorney Reference No.** 5497-67127

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are several English-language and/or non-English-language documents. Applicant respectfully requests that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent.

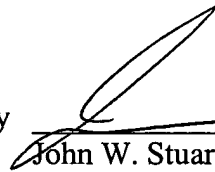
Applicant filed this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. As a result, no fee should be required to file this IDS. However, if the Patent Office determines that a fee is required for Applicant to file this IDS, please charge any such fees, or credit overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A **duplicate** copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed.

The filing of this IDS shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or otherwise material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

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cc: Docketing

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>				<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>		5497-67127		
						<b>Application Number</b>		To be assigned
						<b>Filing Date</b>		December 9, 2003
						<b>First Named Inventor</b>		Kardeis
						<b>Art Unit</b>		To be assigned
						<b>Examiner Name</b>		To be assigned
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>				
		4,403,959	09/13/1983	Hatakeyama				
		4,477,253	10/16/1984	Euvrard				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Country</b>				
		DE 3433877 C1	09/14/1984	Germany				
		DE 197 14 276 A1	04/07/1997	Germany				
		EP 0 544 274 A2	11/25/1992	EPO				
		EP 0 870 477 A1	03/27/1998	EPO				
		FR 2 709 658 A1	02/19/1993	France				
<b>Examiner's Initials*</b>	<b>Cite No. (optional)</b>	<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b>						

<b>EXAMINER SIGNATURE:</b>	<b>DATE CONSIDERED:</b>
* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through cite if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	